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"I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me" Phillipians 4:13

## Collective Worship

Reviewed: September 2024~~2~~

Agreed: Governors meeting 25~~8~~<sup>th</sup> September 2024~~2~~

Next review date: September 2026~~4~~

We cultivate a rich environment in all we do so that the school community, have the right to Learn, Enjoy, Grow, developing spiritually and having awe-inspiring learning experiences. Our children learn within a culture of acceptance, build resilience and flourish in unique ways, underpinned through the teachings of Jesus, through God and in his world.

## **Aims**

At Teynham Parochial CEP School we believe that all children have the right to learn, enjoy and grow; to dream and achieve above and beyond, through our consistent culture of high quality experiences and aspirations.

We want our whole Christian school community to feel valued by leading and contributing towards our exceptional school.

## **The Legal Perspective**

All maintained schools are required to provide a daily act of collective worship for all registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by parents/carers. This is usually provided within a daily Act of Worship (Assembly).

The Governors of our school are responsible for Collective Worship in consultation with the Headteacher.

As a Church school the collective worship will be from a Christian standpoint.

## **Collective Worship Plan**

At Teynham Parochial CEP School we use the Roots and Fruits (Imaginer) and Values for Life scheme from The Church of England as the basis of our collective worship scheme, with additional material from Diocese of Canterbury. There are alterations through the year which takes account of key Christian Festivals and issues which arise within the school. Worship is led by the Headteacher or other members of staff, The Rector or [The Curate](#) or [another member of the Clergy Benefice Team](#) from the local parish church lead an Act of Worship once a week and other local Christian groups and pupils take acts of worships at times.

During the year there are a number of occasions when the act of worship will take place in the Parish church and are led by clergy, school staff and pupils.

The time of collective worship is planned to ensure that the children are able to gain maximum benefit from the worship as well as enabling the school day to run smoothly and take account of other requirements of the school day. The usual pattern for collective worship in school is outlined below.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Whole School - Head teacher led	Whole School - Staff led	Whole School - Staff led	Whole School - Clergy led	Whole school - Celebration

Plans are drawn up in advance, shared with staff and visitors and evaluations are recorded by the Headteacher or member of staff leading the worship and the children are also included in this. Governors are expected to follow the contractual obligations set out by SIAMS in their monitoring and evaluation of collective worship across the school.

Collective Worship is central to the life of our school and as such we expect all children and staff to attend. However, parents do have the right to withdraw their child/children from collective worship. If parents wish to exercise this right, we respectfully ask that the parent has a conversation with the Headteacher.

### What Does Collective Worship Look Like in Our School?

At Teynham Parochial CEP School we aim to make our collective worship as meaningful as possible for all participants enabling them to develop a spiritual dimension to their life; as a school we recognise that the daily act of collective worship may be the main opportunity that some of the participants have to do this.

Collective worship at Teynham Parochial CEP School is Christian whilst taking account of the specific teachings of the Church of England.

The aims of collective worship at Teynham Parochial CEP School are:

- To enable children to appreciate their worth and value to God and the community and to respect others in the same light.
- To share some of the central teachings of the Christian faith at an appropriate level and so begin to explore their own beliefs.
- To have an opportunity to develop their own spirituality.
- To have an opportunity to reflect, contemplate and pray.
- To foster feelings of awe and wonder, thankfulness, mystery and joy.
- To celebrate a variety of Christian festivals.
- To celebrate gifts, talents and achievements.

- To establish, explore and reinforce common Christian values such as love, peace, kindness, compassion and forgiveness.
- To encourage respect and care for creation and our environment.

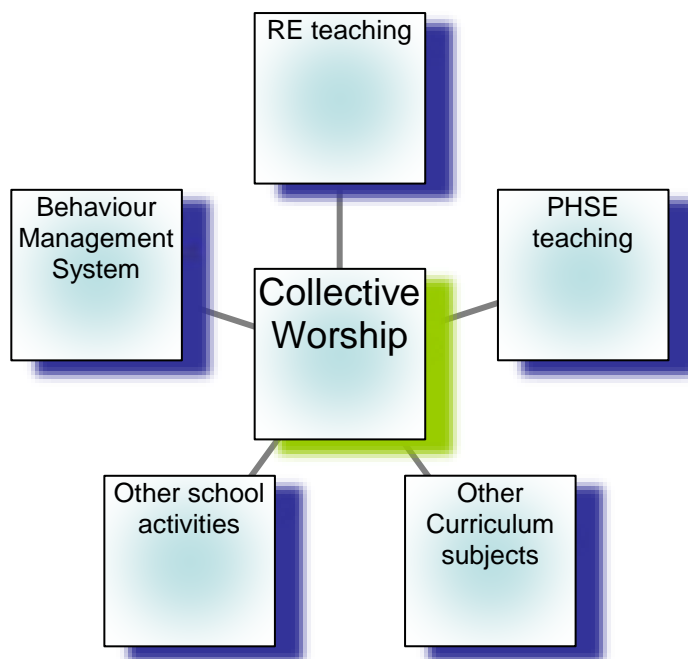
In order to create an effective act of collective worship we use a variety of approaches depending on the age group and purpose of the worship.

We endeavour to include a selection from the list below

- Telling a story
- Describing a situation / event
- Drama/Part Speaking
- Using visual aids / artefacts
- Singing & Listening to music
- Reflection and Silence
- The Church of England Liturgy
- Prayer
- The Bible

### How does Collective Worship link with the rest of school life?

Collective worship is a distinctive part of the school day and is seen as such; however there are close links with all areas of school life. In making links between collective worship and other areas of school life we provide children with an opportunity to put into practice the messages within the collective worship. The links can best be illustrated by the diagram below.



### Use of Visitors

The worship co-ordinator is responsible for liaising with any visitors who come into school to lead collective worship. Practical arrangements such as timing, age range of audience and appropriate content are agreed through discussion. By drawing on people from the local community to lead acts of collective worship we enhance community cohesion.

### **Health, Safety and Well-being**

In collective worship we follow the school's health, safety and well-being policy. For example, appropriate care must be taken when using lighted candles and electrical equipment. In line with our Online Safety policy, any internet resources used must be checked by the leader prior to their use in act of collective worship. In the event of fire all pupils must be familiar with exit routes from the halls and other areas of the school where collective worship takes place. Visitors are not left unaccompanied with children/young people.

### **Equal Opportunities and Inclusion**

Collective worship will challenge stereotypes, misinformation and misconceptions about race, ethnicity, religion and gender. During collective worship, religions will be presented fairly and accurately and diversity and equality will be affirmed.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

As part of the school's quality assurance programme it is the role of the collective worship leader to monitor individual acts of collective worship and feed back to the Headteacher. To ensure consistency the co-ordinator will use a copy of the pro-forma attached to this policy. Governors who visit collective worship are invited to provide informal feedback to the leader. As part of our pupil voice policy a random selection of pupils will be asked to comment on their experience of and response to collective worship at least once a year.

### **Collective Worship Monitoring Sheet**

<b>Observer</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Collective Worship Leader</b>	<b>Type</b>
<b>Topic / Theme</b>	

**Brief description of what happened:**

**How clearly was the aim expressed?**

**To what extent was the collective worship 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'?**

**How did the act of collective worship promote the spiritual and moral development of pupils?**

**Was the act of collective worship appropriate for the pupils/students (age, ability, backgrounds, etc)?**

**How did the pupils/students actively participate?**

**How did the adults present actively participate?**

**Were there opportunities for:**

**Reflection?**

**Stillness?**

**Silence?**

**Prayer?**

**General comment:**

**Comment from the collective worship leader:**

**Copies to: Headteacher**

**Class teacher**

**Link governor**